

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A flexible fluid containment vessel for the transportation and/or containment of cargo comprising a fluid or fluidisable material, said vessel comprising:

an elongated flexible tubular structure having an interior and exterior and being comprised of fabric having a first circumference;

means for rendering said tubular structure impervious;

said tubular structure having a front end and a rear end;

means for filling and emptying said vessel of cargo;

wherein at least one of said front end or rear end is so formed so as to define an opening having a second circumference which is less than that of the first circumference; and

clamping mechanism for closing said opening, said mechanism having a receiving portion in which said end is inserted between ~~two cooperating surfaces~~ ^{with a curved engaging surface} a ring portion having an ~~enlarged~~ ^{radially} radially extending member ~~which is curved and extends outward~~ and a ring receiving surface ~~and thereafter~~ ^{exerted by the clamping mechanism} a clamping force is ~~placed thereon~~ ^{placed thereon} clamping said end between ~~the cooperating surfaces~~ ^{having a corresponding geometry to said ring portion} said ring portion and said ring receiving surface thereby affixing said mechanism to said end.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Cancelled).